

## Message Text

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ORIGIN PA-02

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FOR CARTER FROM PA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (VANCE)

SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HERewith FULL TEXT ROBIN WRIGHT ARTICLE WASHINGTON  
POST FRIDAY AUGUST 26 HEADED "SMITH SEEN REJECTING  
RHODESIA PLAN."

2. SALISBURY, RHODESIA, AUG. 25--PRIME MINISTER IAN  
SMITH IS CERTAIN TO REJECT THE LATEST ANGLO-AMERICAN  
PROPOSAL TO END RHODESIA'S 12-YEAR-OLD CONSTITUTIONAL  
CRISIS, INFORMED SOURCES SAID HERE TODAY, POINTING OUT  
THAT ALL BUT ONE OF THE EIGHT POINTS IN THE PLAN WERE  
REJECTED DURING PREVIOUS NEGOTIATIONS WITH U.S. AND  
BRITISH REPRESENTATIVES.

3. THE DEFIANT RHODESIAN LEADER IS NOT EXPECTED TO COM-  
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MENT ON THE PROPOSALS--LEAKED IN LAGOS, NIGERIA YESTER-  
DAY--UNTIL HE MEETS WITH ANGLO-AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES  
NEXT WEEK. BUT A HIGH-LEVEL SOURCE SAID TODAY THAT OF-  
FICIAL CIRCLES IN SALISBURY WERE "SURPRISED" THAT THE  
MISSION WOULD OFFER A PLAN THEY KNEW WOULD BE TURNED  
DOWN. HE DESCRIBED THE PLAN AS "A CYNICAL EXERCISE THAT

ALMOST LOOKS LIKE AN INTERNATIONAL EFFORT AT FAILURE.  
THERE IS NO ROOM FOR NEGOTIATION."

4. SMITH HAS ALREADY SAID IT WOULD TAKE A "MIRACLE" FOR  
THE WESTERN INITIATIVE TO BE ACCEPTABLE.

5. THE MAJOR POINT OF CONTENTION IS THE DISMANTLING OF  
THE RHODESIAN ARMED FORCES IN FAVOR OF A NEUTRAL PEACE-  
KEEPING FORCE, POSSIBLY MADE UP LARGELY OF NIGERIANS.  
MINISTER OF DEFENSE MARK PARTRIDGE PUT IT BLUNTLY TODAY:

6. "I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE IT QUITE CLEAR THAT ANY SUG-  
GESTION THAT OUR ARMED FORCES BE DISMANTLED IS TOTALLY  
UNACCEPTABLE, AND ANY SUGGESTION THAT THEY MIGHT BE  
MERGED WITH TERRORISTS OR REPLACED BY SOME COMMONWEALTH  
FORCE IS ALSO TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE."

7. THROUGHOUT THE YEAR-LONG ANGLO-AMERICAN SETTLEMENT  
EFFORT, SMITH HAS STOOD FIRM ON THE QUESTION OF A NEW  
ARMY IN AN INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE, THE AFRICAN NAME FOR  
RHODESIA, ARGUING THAT THE SECURITY OF WHITES CANNOT BE  
GUARANTEED UNLESS ELEMENTS OF THE CURRENT ARMY ARE  
MAINTAINED.

8. THE GENERAL ABSENCE OF GUARANTEES FOR WHITES IS  
THE SECOND MAJOR OBJECTION. THE \$1 BILLION DEVELOPMENT  
FUND, WHICH REPORTEDLY EMPHASIZES INCENTIVES FOR WHITES  
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TO STAY IN RHODESIA, IS NOT ENOUGH TO EASE THE INSECU-  
RITIES OF THE 270,000 WHITES, OUTNUMBERED MORE THAN  
20 TO 1 BY BLACKS, SOURCES HERE SAY.

9. THE SMITH GOVERNMENT HAS CONSISTENTLY DEMANDED FOUR  
PREREQUISITES FOR A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT:

--SPECIAL REPRESENTATION FOR WHITES IN PARLIAMENT

--PROPERTY RIGHTS INSURED AGAINST NATIONALIZATION

--THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE CIVIL SERVICE, JUDICIARY,  
POLICE AND ARMED FORCES FROM POLITICS, WITH THE ARMED  
FORCES AND POLICE CONTROLLED BY WHITES AND WITH BLACKS  
ELIGIBLE FOR PROMOTION ONLY ON THE BASIS OF MERIT.

--RESTRICTED VOTING RIGHTS ON THE BASIS OF EDUCATION  
AND FINANCIAL QUALIFICATIONS.

10. THERE ARE SOME INDICATIONS HERE THAT SMITH MAY BE  
WILLING TO ACCEPT A ONE-MAN, ONE-VOTE FORMULA, BUT

ONLY IF THE OTHER CHECKS AND BALANCES CAN BE FIRMLY  
ENTRENCHED. -

11. ONE SOURCE SAID SMITH IS BEGINNING TO COME AROUND

TO THE ARGUMENT THAT MANY OF THE AFRICANS WHO DO NOT  
MEET VOTER QUALIFICATIONS ARE THE MOST CONSERVATIVE,  
WITH BASIC LOYALTIES TO THE PRO-GOVERNMENT TRIBAL  
CHIEFS. ALSO, BY STIPULATING A 21-YEAR-OLD VOTING AGE,  
THE GOVERNMENT WOULD TEMPORARILY EXCLUDE FROM VOTING ANY  
GUERRILLAS REENTERING THE COUNTRY, SINCE THEIR AVERAGE  
AGE IS BETWEEN 17 AND 20.

12. EVEN THIS WOULD BE A DRAMATIC MOVE THAT WOULD FACE  
SERIOUS OPPOSITION FROM SEVERAL MEMBERS OF SMITH'S  
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CABINET. JUST LAST WEEK, THE MINISTER OF COMBINED MILI-  
TARY OPERATIONS, ROGER HAWKINS, SAID THAT HISTORY PROVES  
THAT THE DECLINE IN GOOD GOVERNMENT STARTED WITH THE  
INTRODUCTION OF UNIVERSAL ADULT SUFFRAGE AND HAS CON-  
TINUED TO ACCELERATE EVER SINCE. THIS IS TRUE EVEN IN  
THE RELATIVELY SOPHISTICATED COUNTRIES OF THE WESTERN  
WORLD, HE ADDED.

13. THE REPORTED PLAN--WHICH HAS NOT YET BEEN FULLY  
OUTLINED TO SMITH--IS SO FUTILE IN THE EYES OF OFFICIALS  
HERE THAT ONE GOVERNMENT SOURCE SAID HE DOES NOT SEE  
ANY POINT TO TALKS IN SALISBURY NEXT WEEK BETWEEN  
SMITH AND THE PLAN'S PROPONENTS, BRITISH FOREIGN SEC-  
RETARY DAVID OWEN AND U.S. AMBASSADOR IN THE UNITED  
NATIONS ANDREW YOUNG.

14. "I THINK THEY KNOW THIS IS A NO-GO. IT APPEARS  
THAT ALL THE BRITISH AND AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS ARE AFTER  
IS SOME KIND OF NEW IMAGE IN BLACK AFRICA, THAT THEY AT  
LEAST TRIED TO BRING DOWN SMITH. THERE IS NO WAY THEY  
CAN HONESTLY BELIEVE THESE PROPOSALS WILL BE ACCEPTED  
BY ANYONE HERE. IF THAT IS REALLY WHAT THEY PLAN TO  
OFFER US, WE DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT." END TEXT. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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